

## On the Development of the Position of Czech Enclitic Pronoun *mi* in Czech Bibles from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Czech pronominal clitics (such *mi* ‘to me’, *ti* ‘to you’, *si* ‘REFLdat’, *tě* ‘you’, *sě* ‘REFLacc’, *ho* ‘him’, *mu* ‘to him’) dependent on a finite verb (governor) occur in variant positions in the historical development of Czech. In most cases, they occupy the post-initial (second) position in a clause, see example (1). However, they can be placed also in several non-post-initial positions (Kosek 2017), such as in examples (2), (3), (4):

- (1) *Nebe*<sub>1</sub>                    *mi*<sub>2</sub>            *stolice*            *jest*            BiblLitTřeb, Acts 7,49  
Heaven<sub>NOM.N.SG</sub>    me<sub>DAT.SG</sub>    throne<sub>NOM.F.SG</sub>    is<sub>3.SG.PRAES</sub>  
‘Heaven is my throne’
- (2) [*Pán*            *Buoh*]<sub>1</sub>            *otevřel*<sub>2</sub>            *mi*<sub>3</sub>            *ucho*            BiblBen, Isa 50,5  
Lord<sub>NOM.N.SG</sub>    God<sub>NOM.N.SG</sub>    open<sub>3.SG.M.PAST</sub>    me<sub>DAT.SG</sub>    ear<sub>NOM.N.SG</sub>  
‘The Lord God opened my ear’
- (3) ... *nebo*<sub>1</sub> [*vedlé*            *obyčeje*            *ženského*]<sub>2</sub>            [*nyní*]<sub>3</sub> *mi*<sub>4</sub>            *se*  
because according custom<sub>GEN.M.SG</sub> female<sub>GEN.M.SG</sub> now    me<sub>DAT.SG</sub> REFL<sub>ACC</sub>  
*přihodilo*...            BiblSvat Gn 31,35  
happen<sub>3.SG.N.PAST</sub>  
‘because it happened to me now, according to the custom of women’
- (4) [*Neb*]<sub>1</sub> [*toto*]<sub>2</sub>            *mi*<sub>3</sub>            *Hospodin*            *řekl*            BiblBen Isa 21,6  
because this<sub>NOM.N.SG</sub> me<sub>DAT.SG</sub> Lord<sub>NOM.M.SG</sub> tell<sub>3.SG.N.PAST</sub>  
‘For this is what the Lord has told me’

These non-post-initial positions can be interpreted as follows: (2) and (3) as a result of contact word ordering of an enclitic and its governor, (4) as a result of a topicalization (Kosek 2017; Uhlířová et al. 2017). The non-post-initial positions of Czech enclitics were less frequent in the history of the Czech language. Still, their occurrence in Czech texts before the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was significantly higher (roughly 20%, according to Kosek et al. 2018a,b, 2020) than in contemporary Czech.

The aim of the paper is to analyze the development of word order positions of the singular form *mi* ‘to me’ (dative of personal pronoun *já* ‘I’) from a diachronic perspective, i.e., in individual developmental stages of Czech (see Migdalski 2016 and Kosek et al. 2018 for the enclitic status of Slavic and Czech *mi*). The research is carried out in nine selected Czech translations of six Bible books – three books from the Old Testament (Genesis, Job, Isaiah), and three from the New Testament (Matthew, Acts, Revelation). The translations cover the period from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The paper is focused on the following issues: 1) the development of the competition between the post-initial and non-post-initial positions of enclitic *mi* in the history of Czech, 2) the impact of the length of the first clausal phrase on the competition (Ćavar & Wilder 1999; Čech et al. 2021), 3) the relation between post-initial and contact word-ordering – is it a competition or a cooperation (Čech et al. 2019a)?

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